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KERALA GAZETTE

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NOTIFICATION

No. 1872/LA. 4/60. *18th June 1960.*

The following Bill together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons is published, as ordered by the Speaker under Rule 73 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assembly.

D. TIRUMALAI IYENGAR,
Secretary,
Legislative Assembly.

Legislature Secretariat,
Trivandrum.

L. A. Bill No. 14 of 1960

THE MINIMUM WAGES (KERALA AMENDMENT) BILL, 1960

A

BILL

to amend the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, in its application to the State of Kerala.

Preamble.—WHEREAS it is deemed necessary to amend the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (Central Act 11 of 1948), in its application to the State of Kerala;

BE it enacted in the Eleventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title, extent and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Minimum Wages (Kerala Amendment) Act, 1960.

(2) It extends to the whole of the State of Kerala.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of Section 3.*—(1) Section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (Central Act 11 of 1948), in its application to the fixation of minimum rates of wages in respect of employ-

ments specified in Part I and Part II of the Schedule to the Act, in relation to which the appropriate Government is the State Government, shall have effect in the State of Kerala subject to the amendments specified in sub-section (2).

(2) In sub-section (1) of Section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (Central Act 11 of 1948)—

(i) in the opening words, for the words "the appropriate Government", the words "the State Government" shall be substituted;

(ii) in sub-clauses (i) and (ii) of clause (a) for the figures, letters and words "31st day of December, 1959", the figures, letters and words "31st day of March, 1961, or such other date not being later than 31st day of March, 1962, as the State Government may from time to time fix by notification in the Gazette" shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

According to Section 3 (1) (a) of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the minimum rates of wages in respect of employments specified in Part I and Part II of the Schedule to the Act have to be fixed before 31st December, 1959.

The minimum rates of wages in respect of employments specified in Part II of the Schedule were fixed by the Government within the time specified in Section 3. But a notification fixing the minimum rates of wages for employees in the Malabar area was declared by the High Court to be invalid. Therefore, it has become necessary to fix afresh the minimum wages in respect of such cases. But the time specified for the initial fixation of the minimum wages is already over. It is therefore necessary to amend the section extending the time for fixing the minimum wages suitably.

As regards the employments specified in Part I of the Schedule, the minimum rates of wages in respect of all such employments in the State have been fixed. However it is possible that some categories of workers might have been left out while fixing the minimum rates. Since Section 3 of the Act has to be amended, opportunity is availed of to extend the time for fixing the minimum rates of wages in respect of employments specified in Part I also, so that if there has been any such omission, the minimum rates of wages in respect of such employments also can be fixed.

It is proposed to extend the time for fixing the minimum rates of wages up to 31st March, 1961, and the Government is proposed to be empowered to extend the time further up to 31st March, 1962, or any earlier date. The amendments are to apply to the fixation of minimum rates of wages in respect of scheduled employments in the State sphere.

The Bill seeks to amend the Minimum Wages Act for the above purposes.

K. T. ATCHUTHAN.

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